Project Description

On a property that resembles a park nestled within the heart of Vienna’s eleventh district, a nursing home for seniors has arisen that creates a sensitive living space. The home addresses all of the senses – in soothing contrast to the typically sterile, hospital-like quality of such facilities.

The generous ground floor zone appears more like a city centre than the entryway to a geriatric facility. There are small shops here, a café, a treatment and therapy centre, day care, and a multi-purpose room. The individual wards are also designed to resemble an old city centre, divided into day rooms, common areas, and small residential units along the “avenues”. This creates an interplay of peaceful, contemplative zones with communicative zones for discussion, play, and entertainment.

Each residential unit has a naturally lit bath and a loggia with a view of the park and surroundings. There are two-storey buildings and variously designed spaces for movement interspersed around the stations, from a flower area to an aquarium to a rock garden. All of these staged locations can be accompanied by acoustics such as music, the sounds of water, or birdsong. To facilitate orientation, the entire residential area avoids frequent repetition of identical or similar room sequences. In addition, there is also a guiding line of light from the entry area to the interior of the building, playfully connecting the way to the ground floor zone where other paths and various functions come together. The light lines create two basic light moods throughout the building: during the day, a mood similar to daylight, and a softly dimmed, warm light in the morning and evening hours.

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PHOTOGRAPHER
Paul Ott